

ANOTHER WITNESS!

OR

FURTHER TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF

RICHARD BROTHERS:

WITH

A FEW MODEST HINTS TO

MODERN PHARISEES,

AND

REVEREND UNBELIEVERS.

ALSO

SOME OF THE SCRIPTURAL MARKS

OF THE

PRESENT TIMES,

OR

PROPHETICAL LATTER DAY.

BY S. WHITCHURCH.

"In the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly."

PRINTED IN THE YEAR OF CHRIST 1795,

FOR JOHN WRIGHT, No. 48, Dorset-street, AND

G. RIEBAU, No. 439, Strand.

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SOME OF THE SCRIPTURAL MARKS

OF THE

PRESBYTERIANISM.



PROMETICALLY D.M.

BY S. WHITTON CH.

"It is the law of the land, and it is the right of the people."

PRINTED IN THE YEAR OF GRACE 1870.

FOR JOHN WRIGHT, No. 12, D. W. ST., AND

G. R. B. No. 12, D. W. ST.

ANOTHER WITNESS,

&c.

IT was asked respecting him who spake as never man spake—“*Have any of the Rulers believed on him?*”—Let the same question be put to those who credit the mission of **MR. BROTHERS**—and they can answer in the affirmative—they can produce—Not a Nicodemus, who came like a thief by night—Not a Joseph of Arithmathea, who had not the temerity publickly to acknowledge his attachment to the Saviour of the World till after the dismal catastrophe of his crucifixion—They can produce one of the most enlightened and intelligent rulers of this country, who, at the risk of royal displeasure—in spite of the jeers of titled ideots—the censure of malignant divines, and the

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scoffs of the fashionable world—has manfully stepped forward, and borne public testimony in favour of the great Prophet of this LATTER DAY.

We live in a period distinguished by the most extraordinary events, and pregnant with the fate of Empires and of Thrones—wonderful changes have already taken place, and still the portentous clouds thicken, and spread around the political horizon—America first drew the sword in the cause of freedom; she fought, and victory rewarded her with independence—Thus the new world set an example to the old—The voice of Liberty was heard across the Atlantic, and the most astonishing revolution that history ever recorded soon followed; when, before the giant Reformation, gloomy superstition fell prostrate, like Dagon before the ark; and cruel bigotry retired from France. The acute Philosopher, and subtle Statesman, may ascribe these grand events to different causes; the *one* may believe that in them he discovers the progress of reason—the *other* the prevalence of *French* atheism—but others perhaps equally well informed, look to an higher origin, and beholding the hand of Providence—

bid

bid welcome to the accomplishment of ancient predictions, and revere the wonderful works of the GOD of heaven.

Let any person, divested of prejudice, and with a mind open to conviction, examine the scriptures; he will there find that many of the Prophets spake of *these times*, and that numerous prophecies remain yet to be fulfilled—he will there find that all former commentators, scarcely an individual excepted, have been most miserably bewildered in the labyrinth of research, and never made a voyage on this kind of discovery, without either suffering shipwreck on the rocks of Scylla, or losing their adventurous barks in the Charybdean gulph. It is in vain that those dotards the Fathers, or the learned Grotius, or the assiduous Mead, or the mitred Newton rise up in judgment against this assertion—they all differed from each other in their explication of the prophetic writings; and whatever credit may be due to them for their laborious investigation—they all aimed at impossibilities, by attempting to explain what the *Holy Spirit* had determined should not be understood till the LATTER DAY—when “*the wise shall understand.*”—

stand."—For if that great favorite of heaven, Daniel confessed his ignorance of what had been predicted, and received as a reply to his enquiries—"Go thy way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed, till the time of the end." It surely must have been the height of folly and presumption in Commentators to attempt an explication of that which to them was "*closed up and sealed,*" and consequently inexplicable.

Let any person attentively read the vision of the four beasts in the seventh chapter of Daniel, and compare the tortured interpretations of former Expositors with the bold comments of Mr. BROTHERS, and the more critical explanations of Mr. Halbed—and I will venture to affirm, that unless prejudice extinguish the light of conviction, he will, without hesitation confess—that the scale of truth and reason preponderates in favour of the two moderns.

A great light is visibly sprung up in the world; a revolution is rapidly taking place, in the human mind, and the number of believers increase daily—but the generality of mankind "*love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil;*" and too many alas!

of

of those who boast of illumination and profess to be followers of the PRINCE OF PEACE, on a vain supposition that they have attained the *Ne plus ultra* of divine knowledge, repel the force of New Prophecy, and fortify their minds against the progress of Truth—But unless it can be proved that Prophecy has ceased, and that the book called the Bible contains every iota of what GOD designed to reveal to man—it surely behoves all humble christians, all modest inquirers after Truth, to investigate dispassionately, to exercise charity, and not to condemn any man for a Lunatic or Impostor, whose sincerity is unquestionable, whose fortitude is invincible, and who comes to them in the name of the LORD,

That almost all the ancient Prophets foretold the restoration of Israel, and the establishment of the Kingdom of Peace, is a fact easy to be ascertained; even the weeping eye of the melancholy author of the Lamentations penetrates futurity, and brightens at the charming prospect—he anticipates the emancipation of his countrymen, and in the gladness of his heart exclaims,

“Hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations,
“and

"and declare it to the ISLANDS AFAR OFF; and
 "say, be that scattered Israel will gather him,
 "and keep him as a shepherd does his flock.
 "For the Lord has redeemed Jacob, and ran-
 "somed him from the hand that was stronger
 "than he. Therefore they shall come and sing
 "in the height of Zion, and shall flow together
 "to the goodness of the Lord; for wheat, and
 "for wine and for oil, and for the young of the
 "flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be
 "as a watered garden, and they shall not sor-
 "row any more at all."

The good old Prophet then forgetting his
 afflictions, and his age, partakes in idea of
 the future innocent recreation, and thus
 describes the festive dance and the numerous
 felicities of the period to come.

"Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance,
 "with young men and old together; for I will
 "turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort
 "them, and make them rejoice from their sor-
 "row," &c.

But to enumerate all the passages of holy writ
 which refer to the latter day of glory, would
 swell my work to a volume, and far exceed
 the limits of my plan; and indeed the won-
 derful selection of scripture prophecies which
 the

the books of Mr. BROTHERS contain, will throw sufficient light on the mind of the candid reader, and preclude the necessity of my inserting them.

It needs neither the penetration of the eagle eyed divine, nor the critical acumen of the Goliath of literature, to discover in the Jewish Prophets the history of recent transactions, and the prominent features of the present times. Any person possessing common sense, and a mind untainted with prejudice, may if he will examine for himself, desery in the Scriptures, a faithful account of modern revolutions, and the awful signs of the times, written as with a sun beam, in characters the most legible. He may without any unnatural construction, or perversion of the sacred text, *now* distinguish that grand epoch, that eventful period, which is to usher in "*the great and dreadful day of the Lord,*" when the promised ELIJAH, to fulfil the determined council of heaven, "*shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers*"—when emancipated Israel shall possess his ancient inheritance—when all false Christs, and antichristian hierarchies shall be de-

destroyed by the brightness of *his* coming,
 whose right it is alone to reign—and when
 all the men of blood, the promoters of war,
 the proud destroyers of the earth, and might-
 ty tyrants of the universe, shall hide “ *them-*
 “ *selves in the dens, and in the rocks of the*
 “ *mountains—and say to the mountains and rocks*
 “ *—Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him*
 “ *that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath*
 “ *of the lamb; for the great day of his wrath*
 “ *is come, and who shall be able to stand?*”
 “ And surely, if the meek are to inherit the
 “ earth—if righteousness be to cover it—if the
 “ instruments of cruelty are to be metamorphosed
 “ into implements of husbandry, and the nations
 “ *“war no more”*—ALL violence, oppression and
 cruelty must of necessity be annihilated, to
 make way for the long promised and expect-
 ed kingdom of righteousness and undisturb-
 ed felicity, when nature renovated, shall
 again exhibit all the smiling charms, and de-
 lightful luxuriance of Paradise—when Eden
 shall bloom again, and man, thrice happy
 man, be restored to innocence of life, to free
 communion with the Deity, and all that
 brilliancy of capacity, and perfection of in-
 tellect which he once possessed, when first
 cre-

created—the master-piece of creation and image of God.

Seeing then such an awful pleasing prospect open, and anticipating such grand events—it may not be improper to examine a few, at least, of the scriptural signs which were to precede—for to profess a belief in the Bible, and to read some of the prophetic writings, without being struck with the coincidence of modern events, would argue a mind averse to application, and altogether incapable of reflection—it would resemble the notorious inconsistency of some lawn-sleeved hypocrite of the age, who after swallowing the Athanasian creed, subscribing to the Thirty-nine articles, and valiantly fighting the the battles of orthodoxy from press and pulpit, can laugh at and deny revealed Religion, and curse the dogmas of the church when encircled by his bottle companions.

Is it possible to read the following words of Jeremiah without having an eye to the Reverend Infidels, and profligate priests of the present day?

“ Thus saith the Lord of hosts, hearken not
 “ unto the words of the Prophets that prophesy
 “ unto you; they make you vain: they speak a
 B “ vision

“ vision of their own heart, and not out of the
 “ mouth of the Lord. They say still unto them
 “ that despise me, the Lord hath said, ye shall
 “ have peace; and they say unto every one that
 “ walketh after the imagination of his own
 “ heart, no evil shall come upon you.”

Let any one notice the language of these pretended ministers of God, when to sanction violence and bloodshed, they consecrate the colours of a regiment with all the mummery of papistical devotion. Let *him* but enter the temples of the hierarchy on that high day of impious mockery called a *Fast-day*—Let him there attend to the proud and insolent comparisons between *British* humanity—*British* justice, and *British* piety, and the cruelty, atrocity, and atheism of the * *French* character; and unless the mist of prejudice has

* It is not a little curious to observe how the Reverend Doctors of Holy Church sometimes undesignedly disagree and contradict each other—for whilst *some of them* lament the overthrowing of God's altars, the plundering of God's churches, the profanation of God's sanctuary, and the persecution of God's ministers by the wicked and atheistical French—*others* are pleased to call the *holy head* of the *endrant* Gallican Church, on the downfall of which their cotemporaries have written so many books of lamentations, by the opprobrious name of *Antichrist* !!!

blinded

blinded his eyes, he will at once perceive, that a more exact description could not have been given of these cruel priests of Moloch, by a cotemporary historian—"Tis thus, alas ! that the blind lead the blind till both fall into the ditch together ; for thus runs the dreadful denunciation against the deceiver and deceived.

" Behold a whirlwind of the LORD is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind, it shall fall grievously upon the head of the wicked. The anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart: in the LATTER DAYS ye shall consider it perfectly."

Had not the *before* cited verses exhibited a most striking likeness of the heroes of the *present* Church militant, the concluding sentence of the *last* passage must impress the mind of the attentive reader with the most powerful conviction as to the time of the Judgment.—"*In the LATTER DAYS ye shall consider it perfectly.*" This then must be the LATTER DAY, till which time Daniel was commanded "*to shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the TIME OF THE END;*" when "*many shall run to and fro, and KNOW-*

“LEDGE SHALL BE INCREASED.”—and when
 “*none of the wicked shall understand, but THE*
 “WISE SHALL UNDERSTAND.”—And blessed
 be God that in this age of general apostacy, and universal corruption, whilst the *pretended* Ministers of the PRINCE OF PEACE sound the War-whoop from the pulpit, and like the lying prophets of Ahab say, “*Go up to Battle and prosper;*” there be some few honest *Micaiahs* left amongst us, who with laudable and courageous zeal avow themselves advocates for peace—enemies to war, and the friends of God and man—hail then, ye noble few—ye truly *christian minority*! and accept the meed of merited applause; for although neither lawn-sleeves, nor mitres, nor croziers await you—yet, great is your reward in heaven, and generations to come shall call you blessed! If my Reader be a friend to peace and righteousness, I am persuaded he will excuse this short digression in favor of kindred souls.

I shall now proceed, and although I have referred to the books of MR. BROTHERS for a compleat collection of the prophecies which are applicable to the present age of the world; yet the following passages in the 25th chapter

ter of Jeremiah are so remarkably striking that I cannot omit transcribing them.—After God by the Prophet had threatened to make *all* nations, and *all* kings drink of the wine-cup of his fury—he proceeds in terrible denunciation to declare,

“ For lo, I begin to bring evil on the city
 “ which is called by my name, and should ye be
 “ utterly unpunished? ye shall not be unpunished:
 “ for I will call for a sword upon all the inha-
 “ bitants of the earth, saith the LORD of hosts.
 “ Therefore prophesy thou against them all these
 “ words, and say unto them, The LORD shall roar
 “ from on high, and utter his voice from his
 “ holy habitation, he shall mightily roar upon his
 “ habitation, he shall give a shout, as they that
 “ tread the grapes, against ALL the inhabitants
 “ of the earth; a noise shall come even to the
 “ ends of the earth; for the LORD hath a contro-
 “ versy with the nations; he will plead with ALL
 “ flesh, he will give them that are wicked to the
 “ sword, saith the LORD. Thus saith the LORD
 “ of hosts, Behold evil shall go forth from nation
 “ to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised
 “ up from the coasts of the earth. And the slain
 “ of the LORD shall be at that day from one end
 “ of the earth even unto the other end of the earth:
 “ they

*“ they shall not be lamented, neither gathered,
 “ nor buried, they shall be dung upon the ground.”*

Can we read these passages of scripture without connecting therewith the history of the present war—the horrid destruction of the human species within the tropics, and the recent and bloody massacres in Poland?—and will not hundreds of thousands of the ghosts of murdered Frenchmen, and of the now motionless machines of despotism, crowd upon the imagination, and furnish a sufficient comment?—And should further proof be wanting—Let us realize the late dismal tragedies in Holland, and the routed armies—encountering famine, cold and nakedness, the severity of winter, the fury of the elements, and death in all its various forms, and most terrific shapes!—And if this be not enough—Let us penetrate futurity, and look forward into all the horrors of another campaign; at the prospect of which the soul sickens, outraged humanity stands aghast, and all the tender feelings rise in arms!

But who can examine the following verses without reflecting on the overthrow of the *French Clergy*, and what will most assuredly be

be the fate of *their Brethren* in other countries, unless a speedy repentance prevent?

“ *Howl ye shepherds, and cry, and wallow yourselves in the ashes, ye principal of the flock: for the days of your slaughter, and of your dispersions are accomplished, and ye shall fall like a pleasant vessel. And the shepherds shall have no way to flee, nor the principal of the flock to escape. A voice of the cry of the shepherds, and an howling of the principal of the flock shall be heard: FOR THE LORD HATH SPOILED THEIR PASTURE.*”!!!

These are awful denunciations, but these and numerous similar predictions must, if the Bible be canonical, have their final accomplishment in this **LATTER DAY**; and be the tremendous harbingers of that brighter period, when the scattered seed of Jacob shall be collected from all countries, whither the Lord has driven them, and return under the command of their promised **PRINCE** and **PROPHET**, to the land of their forefathers---When “*the LORD shall set up an ENSIGN for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah, from the four corners of the earth*”---and “*when the LORD of hosts shall reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously.*”

And

And if the scriptures warrant the belief, that such a character as MR. BROTHERS assumes, may be expected to come forward, as the MOSES of his people, and the ELIJAH of the LATTER DAY; who can with certainty deny that MR. BROTHERS is the man?---Many events which this most singular person predicted have already taken place; *and without his present confinement, his own prophecies could not have been fulfilled.*---It most assuredly then behoves all those who call themselves Christians, even if they cannot believe in the prophet, to cultivate that charity, “ *which suffereth long, and is kind; which envieth not; vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth: BEARETH ALL THINGS, BELIEVETH ALL THINGS, HOPETH ALL THINGS, ENDURETH ALL THINGS;*” and without which all pretensions to piety are vain.

But I have reason to fear, from the malignant spirit, and uncharitable temper too generally manifested on this occasion, by the professing Pharisees of the day, that the concluding

ing part of Paul's sermon at Antioch, might with propriety be applied to them.

“ *Beware therefore, lest that come upon you,
 “ which is spoken of in the Prophets ; Behold ye
 “ despisers, and wonder, and perish : for I work
 “ a work in your days, a work which you shall
 “ in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto
 “ you.*”

I have the pleasure to be acquainted with several persons of good sense, and sound intellect, who have visited, and borne the most honourable testimony to the modest behaviour, manly firmness, and unquestionable disinterestedness of MR. BROTHERS.---I have been in his company myself, and solemnly declare that if I ever heard the words of truth and soberness in my life, they were spoken by him.

But some persons have asserted that they cannot credit the mission of MR. BROTHERS, because the *Rev. Mr. Cantwell* called him an Impostor in his sermon ; and others disbelieve, because the *Rev. Mr. Dip-er*, and the *Rev. Mr. Sprinkle*, declared him to be a mad Enthusiast.---Well my friends, if you will suffer either of these *reverend* Gentlemen to *think for you*, and do not choose to exercise the right
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of private judgment, and *read and think for yourselves*, I cannot help it---ye must continue to be deceived---and like the Israelites at Sinai, worship the idols of your own setting up, till the reign of delusion is at an end---or until

“ *The LION is come up from his thicket, and
“ the DESTROYER OF THE GENTILES is on his
“ way.*”

Had MR. BROTHERS been trained up at either of the Universities, or even at a dissenting academy, and prophesied in a gown and cassock, or a black coat, he might probably have met with *more friends among the cloth*---but who could ever suppose that any of these *pious, meek, and holy men*, would submit to be instructed by a *Layman*? for even that petulant *Isbmael* of the Gospel at Providence Chapel, is so chagrined at the idea, as vociferously to exclaim from the pulpit “ *Beware of the
“ Paddington Prophet*”---when perhaps it would be much better if he cautioned his bigotted admirers against the contagion of his own uncharitable temper.

It has been observed by some, that MR. BROTHERS has taken unwarrantable liberties with

with GOD ALMIGHTY, but this stigma has been compleatly wiped off by *Mr. Halbed* in his late masterly publication---yet was it in reality the case, and such a charge could be fully proved---surely no sectarist upon his own principles and practice has a right to condemn him; for almost all *sects*, like the corrupt Mother from whom they sprung, laying claim to infallibility--proudly monopolize the favour of Heaven, and pass the judgment of condemnation against those who cannot pronounce the *Shibboleth* of their own party---But brethren, these things ought not to be---The lip of Truth says, “*Judge not*” “*lest ye be judged;*” And Peter himself, who was somewhat of a bigot *before*, was constrained to confess

“*Of a truth, I perceive, that God is no respecter of persons; but in every nation, he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.*”

What then is the bloody *Calvin*, or the boisterous *Luther*; what are the founders of sects; the Popes of parties, to us? If we believe in the LORD JESUS CHRIST, and obey his Gospel—it is sufficient—then whether we

frequent “ *Temples made with hands,*” to hear those, who, like the Pharisees of former times, make long *prayers*, thinking to be heard for their much speaking; or whether we stay at home, and in obedience to the commands of our blessed SAVIOUR, entering into the closet of our own mind, pray unto our Father, who seeth in secret—we may depend upon it, that we shall be *accepted with him,* “ *who seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh at the outward appearance, but GOD looketh to the heart.*” Seeing then it is a small thing to be judged of man’s judgment, “ *Let every one be persuaded in his own mind;*” and looking to God for “ *that wisdom which cometh from above, and which is profitable to direct;*” carefully obey the dictates of that inward monitor, which ever proveth an unerring guide to all the sincere, and humble disciples of the PRINCE OF PEACE.

Whatever MR. BROTHERS may have been charged with either by the tongue, or pen of calumny, and notwithstanding it may be applicable to some of his calumniators; I am confident that no one will accuse him of creeping into houses in order “ *to lead captive silly women;*” And if they did—that
“ female

“ female bedlamite of *Cecil Street*,” the raving productions of whose distempered brain, have been inserted in the paper called the *Oracle*, would at once exonerate him from an implication of that nature.

I was accustomed to think that the dirty work of abusing persecuted worth, and the friends of mankind, had been the sole prerogative of hireling scribblers, and ministerial newspapers; but since the confinement of MR. BROTHERS, almost all the Public Prints have bestowed the most wanton and illiberal abuse on the character of a man, who disclaiming all party connexions has boldly come forward, and with honest zeal, levelling his axe at the root of corruption, declared himself the servant of CHRIST, the enemy of war, and the friend of peace.—Now although abuse be not argument, as Mr. Horne’s late contemptible publication entitled “ *Sound argument dictated by common sense*,” &c.—most clearly demonstrates—yet to load *any* person with abuse when under persecution, and in the jaws of power, is not only inhuman, unchristian-like, but unmanly in the extreme.

I am happy however in being able to make *one* honorable exception in favor of the Printer
of

of the *Bury and Norwich Post*, who much to the credit of his philanthropy and candour inserted the following paragraph in his valuable paper of the 11th March 1795—and which I have been given to understand had also made its appearance in *one* of the *London Sunday Papers*.

“ The examination of RICHARD BRO-
 “ THERS, on Thursday before the Privy-
 “ Council brought forth nothing satisfactory.
 “ The Lord Chancellor was the examiner ;
 “ he tried what effect his large penetrating
 “ eye would have on the countenance of
 “ this extraordinary man, but, after a rigor-
 “ ous examination of two hours, the Coun-
 “ cil owned that they could not exasperate,
 “ intimidate, nor disconcert him. He pre-
 “ served that gentleness of deportment which
 “ is so peculiar to him under the most biting
 “ harshness of rebuke, and he was never
 “ once deceived by the lures which were
 “ spread to throw him off his guard. It was
 “ said to him for instance, that *Mr. Halhed*
 “ was not sincerely his believer, for he had
 “ spoken of him in most disrespectful terms.
 “ He had called him illiterate, incapable of
 “ writing English grammatically, &c. &c.

“ to

“ to which MR. BROTHERS shewed only an
 “ eagerness to justify *Mr. Halbed* from the
 “ suspicion of insincerity—and nothing he
 “ said could be more certain, than that he
 “ was as *Mr. Halbed* said, illiterate and un-
 “ educated—So much the more shameful it
 “ was for any Government, that pretended
 “ to care for the happiness of mankind, that
 “ a single individual in it should be left in
 “ a state of ignorance, but in this the LORD
 “ GOD had fulfilled the word sent forth by
 “ his Prophets, that he would raise up a
 “ Prince from among the outcast of David.”

I have received many accounts from different friends since MR. BROTHERS has been in custody of the King's Messenger, all tending to substantiate the foregoing, to corroborate each other, and to demonstrate that this most extraordinary person continues to act the character he assumes—but since it is not my intention to swell this testimony beyond the bulk of a small pamphlet, I shall conclude with the apostolic injunction,

“ *Quench not the Spirit—Despise not Prophecies—Prove all things: hold fast that which is good.*”

SAMUEL WHITCHURCH.

Mar. 25, 1795.

to which Mr. Bostons showed only an
argument to justify his attack, from the
position of inconsistency—and nothing he
said could be more certain, than that he
was not Mr. Bostons' friend, illustrate and un-
derstand—So much the more shameful is
it, that for any Government, that pretended
to care for the happiness of mankind, that
a single individual in it should be left in
a state of ignorance, but in this the Lord
God had fulfilled the word that said by
his prophets, that he would make us
a people from among the Gentiles of Egypt.

I have received many accounts from the
Latter-day Saints, that Mr. Bostons has been
in custody of the British Government, and
that he is now in the Tower of London, to con-
sider the case of the Latter-day Saints, and to
decide whether or not they are to be expelled
from the country. I have also received many
accounts from the Latter-day Saints, that they
are now in a state of great distress, and that
they are being persecuted in every way.
I have also received many accounts from the
Latter-day Saints, that they are being
persecuted in every way, and that they are
in a state of great distress.

SAMUEL WHITBURN



Mar. 22. 1792.